

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1733
Examiner : Emily Ann Chimiak
Serial No. : 10/520,718
Filed : January 7, 2005
Inventors : Tsutomu Katayama
 : Yoshiro Iwata
Title : METHOD OF JOINING PIPE-SHAPED
 : ARTICLES

Customer No. 035811

Docket: SPL-04-1349

Conf. No.: 2578

Dated: December 10, 2007

RESPONSE

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated August 10, 2007, Applicants amend the Application

as follows: